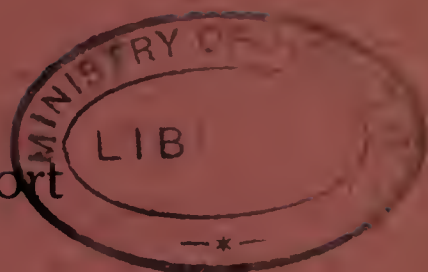


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Annual Report



OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Dartmouth and Totnes

Port Sanitary Authority


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# Annual Report

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# Dartmouth and Totnes

# Port Sanitary Authority

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DARTMOUTH & TOTNES  
PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY.

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*Members :*

HAROLD ADAMS, Esq., Dartmouth.  
W. J. SECCOMBE, Esq., Dartmouth.  
F. C. RICHARDS, Esq., Dartmouth.  
W. T. PILLAR, Esq., Dartmouth.  
WM. J. GRANT, Esq., Dartmouth.  
REV. C. E. JOLLIFFE, Kingswear.  
H. BOND, Poulston, Halwell, Totnes.  
FRANK HILL, Esq., Churston Ferrers.  
T. A. GEATCHES, Esq., Cornworthy.

*Clerk :*

J. J. R. DAY (acting).

*Medical Officer of Health :*

JOHN H. HARRIS, M.D., D.P.H.

*Sanitary Inspector :*

CAPT. N. TUCKER

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
for the Dartmouth and Totnes Port Sanitary  
Authority for Year ending December 31st, 1925.



*To the Chairman and Members.*



GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with my statutory duties I have the honour to submit to you my 25th annual report for the year, 1925.

The Port Sanitary District of Dartmouth and Totnes was constituted in the year 1888 by a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board.

In this Order the limits of jurisdiction are thus laid down.

The jurisdiction of the said Port Sanitary Authority shall extend to so much of the said Port of Dartmouth as lies between Totnes Bridge and a line drawn across the entrance to Dartmouth Harbour, from Blackstone Point to the outward Froward Point, together with the waters of the said Port within such limits, and the place or places for the time being appointed as the customs' Boarding Station or Stations for such part of the said Port under any regulations for the prevention of the spread of disease issued under the Authority of the Statutes in that behalf, and the Docks, Basins, Harbours, Creeks, Rivers, Channels, Roads, Bays, and Streams, belonging to that part of the said Port for which such Authority is constituted as aforesaid.

The chief part of the work under the jurisdiction of this Authority is done at Dartmouth, and consists chiefly in examining vessels coming in from Foreign Ports to take bunker coal to enable them to proceed to their Discharging Port. Also Steam and Sailing Vessels carrying coal from the North of England and the Welsh Ports to discharge at the Kingswear Jetty into trucks, to be carried to the neighbouring towns for house consumption, and to discharge into the hulks for bunkering purposes.

A few small vessels come into the Port to discharge merchandise, &c., from British Coast Towns. Very few come from Foreign Ports to discharge; these are chiefly timber ships from Norway and Sweden. Dartmouth is not what is called a Discharging Port.

A few small vessels proceed up the river to Totnes, a distance of 12 miles, with coal and timber. All these vessels are inspected before they proceed up the river.

The Discharging Quays in the Port are:— The Embankment, Dartmouth; The Jetty, Kingswear; The Quay, Tuckenay; The Quay, Totnes.

During the year, 746 Steam and Sailing Vessels have entered the Port from the various Ports throughout the world, chiefly to receive Bunker Coal, showing a tonnage of 422,291 tons, a decrease from last year by 12 vessels, and the tonnage by 53,561 tons. These vessels are chiefly from Continental Ports coming in for bunker coal and not to discharge cargo, only remaining a few hours.

617 of these vessels were visited and inspected for sickness and Sanitary defects by the Sanitary Inspector and myself. 5 cases of Malaria which is classified as a notifiable disease, were discovered. These cases were found on vessels coming to the Port to take in coal, homeward bound from the West Coast of Africa. They were treated at the Cottage Hospital and sent to their homes, when fit to travel. No other case of Infectious Disease was found. 6 ships were found to be in a dirty, insanitary state. 6 Informal Notices were issued, but it was not found necessary to serve any Statutory Notices, the necessary work being done on request.

The following list gives the cases of ordinary sickness and injury found on the ships inspected.



Sebaceous Cyst	...	1	Syphilis	...	4
Stricture	..	1	Phlebitis	...	1
Dermatitis	...	1	Myalgia	...	2
Dyspepsia	...	3	Injury	...	9
Rheumatism	...	1	F.B. Eye	...	1
Influenza	...	4	Cerebral Hæmorrhage	1	
Gonorrhœa	...	2	Sore Throat	...	2
Chilblains	...	1	Alcoholism	...	1
Neurasthenia	...	1	Carious Teeth	...	1
Malaria	...	5	Abscess	...	1

## HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The Hospital Ship is in Commission and ready for use at any time. But I am happy to say, there has been no case to put on board, but it is necessary to be prepared as one does not know at what moment a case of Infection may be found on a ship coming into the Port.

Wireless messages can always be received and sent through the Shipping Agents—"Dartmouth Coaling Company"—when necessary.

## VENEREAL DISEASE.

5 cases of Venereal Disease were discovered, viz.: Syphilis 4, Gonorrhœa 1.

The nearest Clinic to Dartmouth is Plymouth or Exeter. But the vessels do not remain in the Harbour long enough for the patient to travel to either of these Clinics for treatment and back, but they are advised to go to the nearest Clinic to their Port of Discharge on arrival.

## RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT OF 1919.

Nothing is done in this matter, as vessels come into the Port for bunker coal and only remain for a few hours. They lie in mid stream and there is no communication with the shore, being moored to the hulks, take in their coal, and immediately proceed to sea, so there is no opportunity for any rats being destroyed.

Dartmouth is not an approved Port under the Aliens Order, 1920, therefore there is no work or Medical Inspection of Aliens, as none land here.

PORT SANITARY (INFECTIOUS)  
REGULATIONS, 1920.

Part 2, Paragraph 2, dealing with Verminous Persons  
and Material.

Now the New Hospital is completed and in Working Order, there is Bathing Accommodation in order to carry out the above, and although there is no Disinfector on the Ship, there is one in the Borough, which is at the disposal of the Port if required.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN H. HARRIS, M.D., D.P.H.,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

# FORM A

Amount of Shipping entering the Port Sanitary District during the year 1925.

	Num- ber.	Tonnage	Number inspected.		Number reported to be defective	Number of Orders issued	
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector			
Foreign { Steamers Motor Sailing Fishing	363	349477	68	300	4	4 verbal.	Defects amended.
	4	869	4	2	0	0	[No Statutory Notices issued
	2	243	0	1	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Foreign	369	350489	72	303	4	4	
Coast- wise { Steamers Motor Sailing Fishing	236	64346	34	286	2	2 Informal Notices.	Defects amended
	115	5378	0	8	0	0	"
	26	1978	2	10	0	0	"
	0	0	0	0	0	0	[No Statutory Notices issued.
Total Coastwise	377	71702	36	304	2	2	
Grand total Foreign and Coastwise	746	422291	108	607	6	6	

Rats destroyed in 1925.

Number.	
Black Rats ...	...
Brown Rats ...	...
Rats examined ...	...
„ infected with plague ...	...
	Nil.

## FORM C.

### Plague Precautions. Measures against Rats.

I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Names of Vessels arriving in the Port Sanitary District.			Vessels subjected to Measures of Rat Destruction.						
			Names of Vessels			Number of other Vessels	Measures employed (trapping, poisoning fumigating, etc.)	Results.	
			Plague infected.	Plague suspected.	From infected ports.			Number of Rats killed	Remarks
			Plague infected.						

三.

# FORM D.

Vessels (other than those dealt with in Form C) subjected to Measures of Rat Destruction.

Number of Vessels Fumigated by S O <sub>2</sub>	Number of Rats killed.	Number of Vessels Fumigated by H C N	Number of Rats killed	Number of Vessels in which Trapping, Poisoning, etc., were employed	Number of Rats killed	Number of Fumigation Certificates issued on Form Pott 10	Number of other Certificates issued	Remarks
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Nil





